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Observatory; in those cases Mr. Riddle has computed the time of passage of the moon's semi-diameter from the semi-diameter given in the *Nautical Almanac*, while Mr. Taylor has rejected such cases: again, in taking the means, Mr. Riddle has given to each result a weight equal to the number of stars observed, whereas Mr. Taylor has made use of a table of weights depending upon the square root of the number, the rapidity of change of the moon's right ascension, and the relative accuracy of observations of the moon or stars.

Mr. Taylor also, having to discuss several observations of the second limb of the moon, has thought it necessary to separate these from observations of the first limb, and to treat them distinctly.

Mr. Taylor has, in the present paper, given the recomputed results for 1831–1833; so that Mr. Riddle's paper, with the present one, exhibits each single determination from corresponding observations at Greenwich and Cambridge, from 1831 to the end of 1844; and at Edinburgh, from the commencement to the end of 1839. The Hamburg observations have been taken from the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, Nos. 503, 504, and 508. To reduce each series to Greenwich, the longitudes of Cambridge and Edinburgh have been taken from the *Nautical Almanac* for 1845, and that of Hamburg from the *Connaissance des Temps* for 1840.

Finally, from 442 observations of the moon's first limb, the resulting longitude of Madras is $5^h\ 20^m\ 56^s \cdot 38$ east, with a probable error of $\pm\ 0^s \cdot 23$; and from 86 observations of the second limb, the result is $5^h\ 20^m\ 58^s \cdot 19$, with a probable error of $\pm\ 0^s \cdot 57$. Or, for the present, the most probable value is, $5^h\ 20^m\ 57^s \cdot 28$.

V. On the Brahmin Zodiac. By W. W. Boreham, Esq. Communicated in a Letter to the Secretaries.

"I send you a rubbing from an engraved zodiac on a small silver bowl, which came into the possession of a relative of mine through the late Captain Taynton, who took it from the tent of a Burmese officer during the late war in that country.

"I cannot say that the bowl itself possesses any great antiquity; but the engraving may be regarded as traditionary evidence of the ancient Brahmin zodiac, and as such, possesses an interest.

"The Indian zodiac is well known, and engravings from it are not uncommon; but the Brahmin version of it is, I believe, not so generally given in works on the subject. Its peculiarity appears to consist principally in the retention of the fish and omission of the goat in *Capricornus*: it is alluded to by Dupuis in Lalande's *Astronomie*. The reverse of this is observed in the Greek zodiac.

"There are other minute peculiarities, but as they may be the result of the engraver's fancy I will not dwell upon them, merely observing that the fish in *Capricornus* (if it be one) does not appear

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to be the peculiar sort of fish Dupuis asserts is found in that place, and which he calls a sword-fish.

"Pray excuse my trespassing upon your valuable time.

"Invented at a time when every figure was a symbol, these must still possess a meaning, which every version of them may help to explain."*

VI. Comet communications:—

1. A Communication from Professor Schumacher of Observations of Comets made at Berlin by Professor Encke.

Name of Comet.	Month and Day.	Berlin Mean Solar Time.	Right Ascension.	North Declination.	No. of Comp.	Remarks.
D'Arrest.	1844. Dec. 28	h m s 8 8 27·0	° ′ ″ 294 9 13·5	° ′ ″ + 36 18 52·9	2	Piazzi, Circular Micrometer.
	1845. Jan. 10	6 33 16·8	290 6 55·3	41 28 47·1	15	B. Z. and H. C.
	11	6 31 19·8	289 41 25·3	41 55 24·0	13	B. Z.
	11	7 7 11·6	289 40 29·5	41 56 7·5		B. Z.
	13	6 25 27·0	288 45 47·7	42 50 38·0	12	B. Z.
	14	7 51 12·1	288 13 49·5	43 20 56·4	10	B. Z.
	27	8 36 29·1	277 28 24·5	51 7 15·6	12	Determined at the Merid. Circle.
	28	10 37 47·9	275 57 15·9	53 57 33·4	10	H. C.
	30	8 17 45·8	272 50 18·2	53 31 9·3	10	H. C.
	Feb. 4	8 42 59·6	260 23 14·6	58 7 53·2	10	H. C.
	25	12 23 32·8	150 57 42·6	22 37 28·4	5	B. Z.
	Mar. 3	11 5 43·4	143 7 12·6	8 28 17·6	10	B. Z.
	6	11 37 51·9	140 45 29·4	3 37 27·3	18	B. Z. and H. C.
	8	9 14 1·1	139 37 21·9	+ 1 10 10·1	11	B. Z. and H. C.
	12	10 52 34·5	137 50 46·0	− 2 57 27·3	10	B. Z.
	30	10 0 39·4	135 43 56·7	11 44 24·8	5	Observed in the dark field.
Mauvais (Second).	Feb. 4	7 19 26·0	44 31 16·6	− 20 58 21·2	19	H. C.
	8	7 16 33·6	44 17 40·4	19 48 7·2	2	H. C.
	9	7 56 32·4	44 15 24·4	19 16 40·0	5	H. C.
	Mar. 6	7 52 42·7	45 24 24·1	9 43 0·9	3	Own determination.
Colla.	Feb. 25	8 6 37·9	49 27 31·0	− 13 6 10·2	2	Piazzi.
	Mar. 5	7 55 28·1	53 57 7·4	9 48 36·6	15	B. Z.
	6	7 30 39·6	55 29 47·4	8 43 45·9	2	B. Z.
	9	7 52 29·4	56 0 36·8	8 22 11·4	5	Own determination.

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* See Bailly, Hist. de l'Astronomie Ancienne, pp. 157–488; Gebelin, Hist. du Calendrier, pp. 60–88; Jamieson's Celestial Atlas; Maurice, Hist. Hindostan, vol. i. p. 298.

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